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From-MARTIN&FERRAROLLP

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 101.0056-02000

Customer No. 22882

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In re Application of:

Gary K. Michelson

Serial No.: 09/618,037

Filed: July 17, 2000

For: SINGLE-LOCK ANTERIOR
CERVICAL PLATE

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: D. Reip

Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Prior to the further examination of the above-identified application, the following amendments and remarks are submitted:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims (with the changes as shown in the attachment) as follows:

1, ~~538~~ (Twice Amended) A plate system adapted for use in the anterior human cervical

spine for contacting the anterior aspect of at least two cervical vertebral bodies,

said plate system comprising:

a plate having a longitudinal axis and a length sufficient to span a disc space and overlap portions of at least two adjacent cervical vertebral bodies, a lower surface for placement against the cervical vertebral bodies and an upper